

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF GECKO FROM TANGANYIKA TERRITORY, AFRICA

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Member of the recent Smithsonian-Chrysler African Expedition

Among the reptiles collected in the course of field work during the Smithsonian-Chrysler Expedition to Tanganyika Territory, Africa, in 1926, is one specimen of a gecko which differs conspicuously from the species hitherto known. It may be named and described as:

LYGODACTYLUS MANNI, new species

Type.—Male, No. 72760, U.S.N.M., collected at Saranda, Dodoma District, Tanganyika Territory, Africa, July 15, 1926, by Arthur Loveridge.

Diagnosis.—Differs from all other East African members of the genus by the striking gular markings of the male. Its transversely enlarged subcaudal scales cause it to fall into the *picturatus-gutturalis* group, from the members of which it differs in its much shorter, blunter head.

Description.—Head short, blunt, longer than broad, snout a little less than twice the diameter of the eye, longer than the distance between the eye and the ear opening; ear opening very small, vertically oval; rostral broad but without a median groove; nostril pierced above and behind the suture behind rostral and first labial, separated from the rostral by a narrow rim situated between a large swollen supranasal, a postnasal and the first labial; two small scales separate the enlarged supranasals behind the rostral; seven upper labials, seven lower labials; mental large, subtriangular, not extending back beyond the posterior borders of the first pair of infralabials, and bounded posteriorly by three granular scales. Scales of upper surface small, granular, larger on the snout; abdominal scales large, imbricate, smooth. Digits unequal, fourth longest, second and fifth about equal, four lamellae under median digit. Preanal pores very indistinct, apparently six. Tail tapering, rounded above, flattened below, covered with juxtaposed scales above, below by a median series of transversely enlarged subcaudals except at the very tip.

Coloration.—Above, slaty (or greenish) gray with a row of light, dark-edged ocelli along the sides, and a few indistinct brown marks on back, these forming transverse bars on tail. Below, pure white except throat; lower labials white but throat black with a white, semicircular inverted U-shaped mark, in the center of which are two pairs of conspicuous white spots.

Measurements.—Head and body 27 mm.; tail 27; head 7; hind limb 14.

Remarks.—This animal is named in honor of Dr. W. M. Mann, leader of the expedition. Nothing is known of its distribution or habits.

